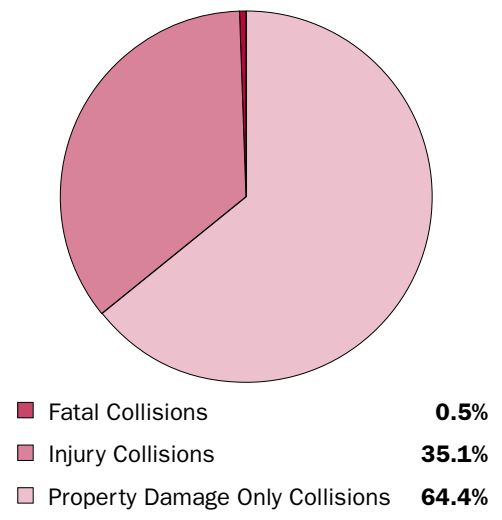


Motor Vehicle Collisions

Motor Vehicle Collisions Down for Fourth Straight Year; Fatal and Injury Collisions also Continue Downward Trend

- The number of motor vehicle collisions on Bay Area roadways fell in 2007, marking the fourth straight year of declines. Total collisions for the year came to 87,296, down 3 percent from the 2006 figure of 89,873. Collisions are down 13 percent since 2003, when the region registered over 100,000 motor vehicle collisions.
- Combined, fatal and injury motor vehicle collisions in the Bay Area also fell in 2007, continuing the prolonged downward trend of recent years. For the year, the decrease was a slim 1 percent, but since 2003 injury and fatal collisions have dropped by 12 percent. And since the beginning of the decade, injury and fatal collisions

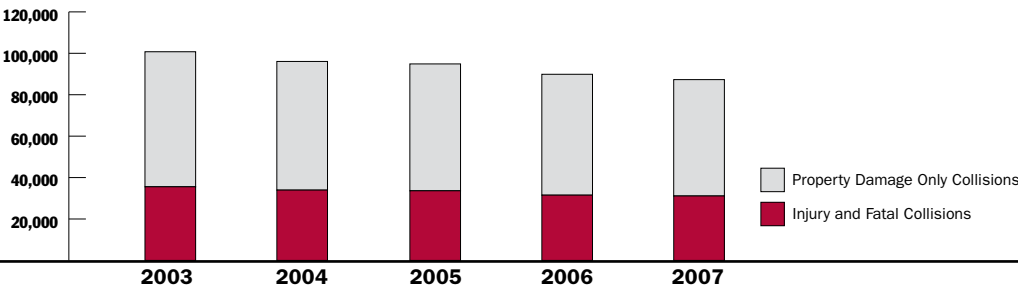
Motor Vehicle Collisions in the Bay Area
In 2007: Fatal, Injury, Property Damage



Source: California Highway Patrol
87,296 collisions = 100%

Motor Vehicle Collisions on Bay Area Roadways, 2003–2007

	Collisions					Percent Change	
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2006–2007	2003–2007
Injury Collisions	35,089	33,524	33,185	31,049	30,670	–1%	–13%
Fatal Collisions	468	426	438	458	449	–2%	–4%
Subtotal Injury and Fatal Collisions	35,557	33,950	33,623	31,507	31,119	–1%	–12%
Property Damage Only Collisions	65,194	62,119	61,252	58,366	56,177	–4%	–14%
Total Collisions	100,751	96,069	94,875	89,873	87,296	–3%	–13%



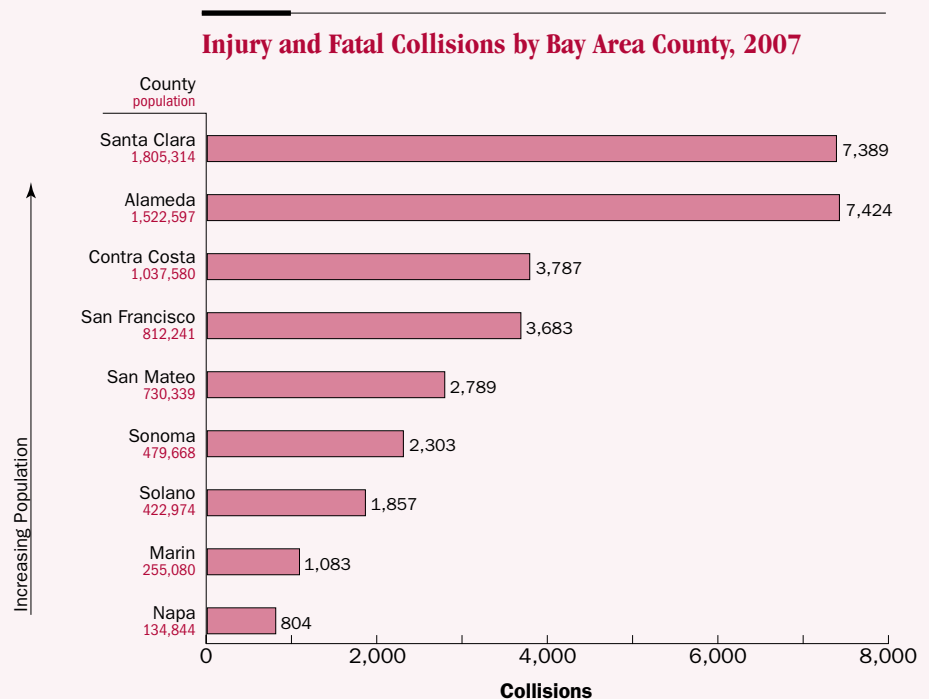
Source: California Highway Patrol

have fallen by 22 percent, from 40,053 in 2000 to 31,119 in 2007.

- Considered separately, fatality and injury collisions were each down from 2006 levels. The number of injury collisions decreased by 1 percent, and the number of fatalities decreased by 2 percent from 2006 levels. This is consistent with statewide figures, and is likely due in part to an overall decrease in the number of drivers on the road – a consequence of increased gas prices. In 2007, the price of gasoline in California increased by 13 percent from the year-earlier level.

- Fortunately, most motor vehicle collisions do not result in injuries or fatalities. In 2007, 64 percent of collisions involved property damage only, which is in line with prior years. Approximately 35 percent of collisions resulted in injuries, and about one-half of one percent caused fatalities.
- Several key factors influence the number of collisions. These include: driver education and behavior, vehicle safety features, roadway conditions, traffic congestion and total number of miles driven. Studies suggest that while freeway driving accounts for approximately 60 percent of all miles driven in the Bay Area, only about 25 percent of all collisions occur on freeways.

A Closer Look – We can get a rough idea of the geographic distribution of injury and fatal collisions by breaking them out by county of occurrence. In general, a given county's share of collisions correlates closely with its size, as measured by population (see bar graph). The greatest number of collisions occurs in Alameda County, though it ranks second to Santa Clara County in terms of population. This is most likely explained by the fact that Alameda is a "cross-roads" county, within whose borders a significant number of vehicle miles of travel are logged each year both by its own residents and those from other counties



Sources: California Highway Patrol, California Department of Finance